

Medicine from Afeem

2675. SHRI SAN JAY RAUT:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two pharma companies have been given licenses to make medicines from Afeem;

(b) if so, the reasons for giving such licenses to private companies;

(c) whether in view of the increasing demand of medicines made from opium there is any plan to expand the opium and alkaloid factories situated in Neemuch in Madhya Pradesh and Ghazipur in Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Afeem is a synonym of the term Opium which is Narcotic Drug and used in the production of Alkaloids such as Morphine, Codeine etc.

The production of Opium is under the control of Government of India and there are two Government Opium and Alkaloid factories in the country, one is located at Ghazipur in Uttar Pradesh and the other one is at Neemuch in Madhya Pradesh.

The Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance is examining the feasibility of permitting pharma companies to produce Alkaloids/APIs from Opium after obtaining the Opium from Government Opium and Alkaloids works.

Cancer patients in the country

†2676. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cancer patients in the country, State-wise;

(b) the steps Government have taken to prevent cancer disease; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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RAJYA SABHA

(c) the details of the type of cancer such as breast, mouth, throat and liver, etc. with which most of the cancer patients are suffering?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) As per information collected by Population Based Cancer Registry functioning under the ^National Cancer Registry Programme of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), it has been estimated that at any given point of time, there are 25 lakh cancer patients in the country and about 7-9 lakh new cancer cases are detected every year.

(b) Health is a State subject and it is for various State Governments to ensure that adequate facilities for early detection, diagnosis and treatment of cancer are made available. The Central Government is also supplementing the efforts of the State Government by providing financial assistance to install equipments for providing treatment facilities. However, under the National Cancer Control Programme, this Ministry has recognized 25 Regional Cancer Centres which provides comprehensive cancer detection and management facilities including testing facilities. In addition, the Radiotherapy treatment is also available at about 210 centres in India.

(c) As per the data collected through Population Based Cancer registry under National Cancer Registry Programme of ICMR, the commonest cancer among female include that of breast and cervix. Among males, lungs, stomach, oesophagus are the commonest cancer.

Medical colleges

2677. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of medical college as on 31st March, 2006, State-wise;

(b) whether all the colleges are attached with regular hospitals;

(c) what are the requirements for grant of permission to run medical colleges: and

(d) who is the final authority to grant such a permission? .